

Pamoja

Volume 5
Number 1 *On: Interpersonal Violence*

Article 3

October 2015

Backbone

Scarlett Peterson
Kennesaw State University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/pamoja>



Part of the [Civic and Community Engagement Commons](#), [Gender and Sexuality Commons](#), and the [Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Peterson, Scarlett (2015) "Backbone," *Pamoja*: Vol. 5 : No. 1 , Article 3.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/pamoja/vol5/iss1/3>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@Kennesaw State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Pamoja by an authorized editor of DigitalCommons@Kennesaw State University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@kennesaw.edu.

BACKBONE

Scarlett Peterson

Poise and grace mean nothing
To the one who holds you down;
There is nothing safe
But the inside of your eyelids.

The one who holds you down
Hides in your dreams, images dancing
On the inside of your eyelids.
No escape from the crawling of your skin.

Images hiding in your dreams
Have no control over you.
There is no escape from the crawling of your skin
But to find solace in the shards of those beside you.

That person has no control over you.
No greater strength than
Those beside you
And the backbone you're building.